

Introduced \_\_\_\_\_  
Public Hearing \_\_\_\_\_  
Council Action \_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Action \_\_\_\_\_  
Effective Date \_\_\_\_\_

## County Council Of Howard County, Maryland

2005 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. **8**

### Bill No. 41-2005

Introduced by: The Chairman at the request of the County Executive

AN ACT amending the provisions of the Howard County Code that regulate electrical work; adding a definition for "building official"; changing the number of annual meetings to be held by the Board of Electrical Examiners; requiring the inspection of certain work performed by a homeowner; setting forth qualifications for certain licenses; requiring insurance for certain license holders; adopting the National Electrical Code and local amendments; providing for powers of the building official; setting forth requirements for a permit and a permit application; clarifying when a building official may grant, deny, revoke, or suspend a permit; providing for an appeal of a decision concerning a permit; requiring certain inspections; requiring fees for permits and inspections; requiring stop work orders and notices of violation; requiring certain actions in the event of an unsafe structure or hazardous condition; providing for remedies for violations of the Electrical Code; and generally relating to the Howard County Electrical Code.

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Introduced and read first time \_\_\_\_\_, 2005. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Sheila M. Tolliver, Administrator

Having been posted and notice of time & place of hearing & title of Bill having been published according to Charter, the Bill was read for a second time at a public hearing on \_\_\_\_\_, 2005.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Sheila M. Tolliver, Administrator

This Bill was read the third time on \_\_\_\_\_, 2005 and Passed \_\_\_\_, Passed with amendments \_\_\_\_\_, Failed \_\_\_\_\_.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Sheila M. Tolliver, Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2005 at \_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Sheila M. Tolliver, Administrator

Approved by the County Executive \_\_\_\_\_, 2005

\_\_\_\_\_  
James N. Robey, County Executive

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN ALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; Strike-out indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.

1 **Section 1. *Be It Enacted*** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that  
2 *Section 3.204 “Qualification's for master electrician-general license”, Section 3.205*  
3 *“Qualification for a master electrician-restricted license”, Section 3.206 “Qualifications*  
4 *for master electrician-limited license”, Section 3.214 “Adoption of National Electrical*  
5 *Code”, Section 3.215 “Inspections; fees”, Section 3.216 “Penalties”, and Section 3.217*  
6 *“Severability” of Subtitle 2 “Electrical Regulations” of Title 3 “Buildings” of the*  
7 *Howard County Code are hereby repealed.*

8  
9 **Section 2. *And Be It Further Enacted*** by the County Council of Howard County,  
10 *Maryland, that Section 3.201 “Definitions” of Subtitle 2 “Electrical Regulations” of*  
11 *Title 3 “Buildings” of the Howard County Code is amended to read as follows:*

12  
13 **Title 3. Buildings.**

14 **Subtitle 2. Electrical Regulations.**

15  
16 **Section 3.201. Definitions.**

17 In this subtitle, the following words have the meanings indicated.

18 (A) **BUILDING OFFICIAL:** THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
19 INSPECTIONS, LICENSES AND PERMITS OR THE DIRECTOR’S DESIGNEE.

20 ~~[[a)]~~ (B) **Board:** Board of electrical examiners.

21 ~~[[b)]~~ (C) **Department** ~~[[of Inspections, Licenses and Permits]]~~: The Howard County  
22 Department of Inspections, Licenses and Permits, charged with enforcement of this  
23 subtitle.

24 ~~[[c)]~~ **Director:** The director of inspections, licenses and permits.]]

25 (d) **Electrical Application:** An application to do electrical work ~~[[which]]~~ THAT has  
26 been filed with the department.

27 (e) **Electrical Permit:** An electrical application ~~[[which]]~~ THAT has been signed by an  
28 authorized representative of the department indicating the department's approval for the  
29 applicant to proceed with the proposed electrical work.

30 (f) **Electrical Work:** The installation, repair, alteration, addition, maintenance or erection  
31 of all or part of any electrical wiring, fixture, appliance, apparatus, raceway or conduit

1 [[which]] THAT generates, transmits, transforms or utilizes electrical energy for light,  
2 heat, power or communication.

3 (g) *Master Electrician-General*: An individual licensed to do electrical work.

4 (h) *Master Electrician-Restricted*: An individual licensed to do 1 or more of the  
5 following categories of electrical work as specified on the license:

- 6 (1) Electrically operated heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC)  
7 equipment, and temperature control wiring;
- 8 (2) Electrically operated elevators, cranes, hoists and pumps;
- 9 (3) Electrical display signs;
- 10 (4) Alarm systems;
- 11 (5) Radio, television, television antennas, cable television;
- 12 (6) Household appliances; or
- 13 (7) Telephone and low-voltage communications systems.

14 A master electrician-restricted, except licensees restricted to radio and television, may  
15 install electrical wiring from the point of distribution to, and including, the equipment or  
16 appliance being installed.

17 (i) *Master Electrician-Limited*. An individual licensed to do electrical work only on the  
18 premises of the individual's employer [[which]] THAT is [[a corporation, firm, or  
19 company]] not engaged in the business of electrical work.

20  
21 ***Section 3. And Be It Further Enacted by the County Council of Howard County,***  
22 ***Maryland, that subsection (e) of Section 3.202 “Board of electrical examiners” of***  
23 ***Subtitle 2 “Electrical Regulations” of Title 3 “Buildings” of the Howard County Code is***  
24 ***amended to read as follows:***

25 **Title 3. Buildings.**

26 **Subtitle 2. Electrical Regulations.**

27  
28 **Section 3.202. Board of electrical examiners.**

29 (e) *Meetings*: The board shall hold regular meetings [[quarterly]] AT LEAST TWICE A  
30 YEAR. Special meetings may be held at the call of the chairperson or by vote of a  
31 majority of the board.

1 **Section 4. *Be It Enacted*** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that  
2 subsection (c) of Section 3.203 “License required to do electrical work” of Subtitle 2  
3 “Electrical Regulations” of Title 3 “Buildings” of the Howard County Code is amended  
4 to read as follows:

5  
6 **Title 3. Buildings.**

7 **Subtitle 2. Electrical Regulations.**

8  
9 **Section 3.203. License required to do electrical work.**

10 (c) *Exemptions:* The following individuals, firms or corporations are exempt from the  
11 licensing requirements of this subtitle:

- 12 (1) *Utility companies:* Utility companies regulated by the Public Service  
13 Commission of Maryland or contractors working for utility companies  
14 when doing electrical work on equipment owned and maintained by the  
15 utility company on its own premises or the customer's premises.
- 16 (2) *Radio and T V:* Radio and television transmitting stations, licensed and  
17 commissioned by the Federal Communications Commission's regulations.
- 18 (3) *Federal or state employees or their agents:* Employees of the United  
19 States government or employees of the State of Maryland only when  
20 engaged in the performance of their official duties. Contractors or  
21 servicemen engaged by the United States government or by the State of  
22 Maryland to do electrical work on federal or state-owned premises or  
23 equipment.
- 24 (4) *Homeowners, minor repairs:* Single-family homeowners engaged in the  
25 repair or replacement of portable appliances, lighting fixtures, fuses, lamps  
26 or sockets or the making of other minor repairs at existing outlets in the  
27 homeowner's residence.
- 28 (5) *Homeowners, changes to wiring:* Single-family homeowners making  
29 changes to wiring in the homeowner's residence. Before making such  
30 changes, the homeowner shall obtain written permission from the  
31 department and shall submit an electrical application for approval. A

CHANGE TO WIRING PERFORMED BY A HOMEOWNER IS  
SUBJECT TO INSPECTION BY THE BUILDING OFFICIAL.

- (6) *Manufacture or assembly of electrical equipment:* An individual, firm or corporation engaged in the manufacture or assembly of electrical equipment made by that individual, firm or corporation or made for that individual, firm or corporation.

**Section 5. *Be It Enacted*** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that Section 3.204 “Qualifications for master electrician-general license”, Section 3.205 “Qualifications for master electrician-restricted license” and Section 3.206 “Qualifications for master electrician-limited license” are added to Subtitle 2 “Electrical Regulations” of Title 3 “Buildings” of the Howard County Code to read as follows:

### **Title 3. Buildings.**

#### **Subtitle 2. Electrical Regulations.**

#### **SECTION 3.204. QUALIFICATIONS FOR MASTER ELECTRICIAN-GENERAL LICENSE.**

(A) TO QUALIFY FOR A MASTER ELECTRICIAN-GENERAL LICENSE, AN APPLICANT SHALL BE AN INDIVIDUAL WHO MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.

(B) THE APPLICANT SHALL PAY THE APPLICABLE FEES.

(C) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION, THE APPLICANT SHALL HOLD AN ACTIVE MASTER ELECTRICIAN'S LICENSE ISSUED BY THE STATE OF MARYLAND.

(D) UNLESS THE APPLICANT HOLDS AN ACTIVE MASTER ELECTRICIAN'S LICENSE ISSUED BY THE STATE OF MARYLAND, THE APPLICANT SHALL:

- (1) CERTIFY UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY TO HAVING INSURANCE AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 3.213 OF THIS SUBTITLE;

- 1 (2) BE AT LEAST 21 YEARS OF AGE; AND
- 2 (3) (I) A. HOLD A CURRENT ACTIVE MASTER
- 3 ELECTRICIAN-GENERAL LICENSE FROM A
- 4 MARYLAND JURISDICTION THAT:
- 5 1. HAS EQUIVALENT EXAMINATION AND
- 6 QUALIFYING PROCEDURES TO THOSE
- 7 REQUIRED IN HOWARD COUNTY; AND
- 8 2. GRANTS RECIPROCITY TO HOWARD
- 9 COUNTY LICENSEES;
- 10 B. HAVE NO LICENSE-RELATED VIOLATIONS
- 11 OUTSTANDING FOR MORE THAN 30 DAYS IN THAT
- 12 JURISDICTION; AND
- 13 C. 1. IF THE APPLICANT OBTAINED THE LICENSE
- 14 BY EXAMINATION, HAVE HELD IT FOR AT
- 15 LEAST 1 YEAR; OR
- 16 2. IF THE APPLICANT OBTAINED THE LICENSE
- 17 WITHOUT EXAMINATION, HAVE HELD IT
- 18 FOR AT LEAST 2 YEARS; OR
- 19 (II) A. HAVE BEEN REGULARLY AND PRINCIPALLY
- 20 ENGAGED IN ELECTRICAL WORK FOR AT LEAST 7
- 21 YEARS UNDER THE DIRECTION AND SUPERVISION
- 22 OF A MASTER ELECTRICIAN-GENERAL OR
- 23 SIMILARLY QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL;
- 24 B. 1. AN APPLICANT WITH A 4- YEAR
- 25 CERTIFICATE FROM A MARYLAND
- 26 APPRENTICESHIP SCHOOL APPROVED BY
- 27 THE MARYLAND APPRENTICESHIP
- 28 TRAINING COUNCIL MAY BE CREDITED
- 29 WITH UP TO 6 MONTHS OF PRACTICAL
- 30 EXPERIENCE;

2. AN APPLICANT WITH A BACHELORS  
DEGREE IN ENGINEERING MAY BE  
CREDITED WITH UP TO 2 YEARS OF  
PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE; AND
3. AN APPLICANT WITH A MASTERS DEGREE  
IN PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING MAY BE  
CREDITED WITH UP TO 3 YEARS OF  
PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE;
- C. HAVE CORRECTLY ANSWERED AT LEAST 70% OF  
THE QUESTIONS ON THE EXAMINATION GIVEN BY  
THE BOARD TO DETERMINE THE INDIVIDUAL'S  
KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL IN ELECTRICAL WORK;  
AND
- D. SATISFY THE BOARD AS TO CHARACTER,  
EXPERIENCE, AND TRAINING.

**SECTION 3.205. QUALIFICATIONS FOR MASTER ELECTRICIAN-  
RESTRICTED LICENSE.**

(A) TO QUALIFY FOR A MASTER ELECTRICIAN-RESTRICTED LICENSE, AN  
APPLICANT SHALL BE AN INDIVIDUAL WHO MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS  
OF THIS SECTION.

(B) THE APPLICANT SHALL BE AT LEAST 21 YEARS OF AGE.

(C) THE APPLICANT SHALL CERTIFY UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY TO  
HAVING INSURANCE AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 3.213 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(D) THE APPLICANT SHALL PAY THE APPLICABLE FEE.

(E) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (F) OF THIS SECTION, THE  
APPLICANT SHALL:

- (1) HOLD A CURRENT ACTIVE MASTER ELECTRICIAN-  
RESTRICTED LICENSE FROM A MARYLAND JURISDICTION  
THAT:

- 1 (I) HAS EQUIVALENT EXAMINATION AND QUALIFYING  
2 PROCEDURES TO THOSE REQUIRED IN HOWARD  
3 COUNTY; AND
- 4 (II) GRANTS RECIPROCITY TO HOWARD COUNTY  
5 LICENSEES;
- 6 (2) HAVE NO LICENSE-RELATED VIOLATIONS OUTSTANDING FOR  
7 MORE THAN 30 DAYS IN THAT JURISDICTION; AND
- 8 (3) (I) IF THE APPLICANT OBTAINED THE LICENSE BY  
9 EXAMINATION, HAVE HELD IT FOR AT LEAST 1 YEAR;  
10 OR
- 11 (II) IF THE APPLICANT OBTAINED THE LICENSE WITHOUT  
12 EXAMINATION, HAVE HELD IT FOR AT LEAST 2 YEARS.
- 13 (F) UNLESS THE APPLICANT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION  
14 (E) OF THIS SECTION, THE APPLICANT SHALL:
- 15 (1) (I) HAVE BEEN REGULARLY AND PRINCIPALLY ENGAGED  
16 IN THE CATEGORY OF ELECTRICAL WORK TO WHICH  
17 THE LICENSE IS RESTRICTED FOR AT LEAST 2 YEARS  
18 UNDER THE DIRECTION AND SUPERVISION OF A  
19 MASTER ELECTRICIAN-GENERAL, MASTER  
20 ELECTRICIAN-RESTRICTED, QUALIFIED COMPANY  
21 AGENT, OR SIMILARLY QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL; AND
- 22 (II) A MONTH OF FULL-TIME STUDY OR TRAINING SHALL  
23 EQUAL ONE MONTH OF PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE IF THE  
24 APPLICANT RECEIVED UP TO 6 MONTHS:
- 25 A. FULL-TIME STUDY IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING  
26 AT AN ACCREDITED COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY;  
27 OR
- 28 B. FULL-TIME TRAINING IN ELECTRICAL WORK AT A  
29 TRADE SCHOOL RECOGNIZED BY THE STATE  
30 BOARD OF ELECTRICAL EXAMINERS;



- 1           (2)     HAVE CORRECTLY ANSWERED AT LEAST 70% OF THE  
2                   QUESTIONS ON THE EXAMINATION GIVEN BY THE BOARD TO  
3                   DETERMINE THE INDIVIDUAL'S KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL IN  
4                   ONE OR TWO RESTRICTED TYPES OF ELECTRICAL WORK; AND  
5           (3)     SATISFY THE BOARD AS TO CHARACTER, EXPERIENCE, AND  
6                   TRAINING.

7  
8     **SECTION 3.206. QUALIFICATIONS FOR MASTER ELECTRICIAN-LIMITED**  
9     **LICENSE.**

- 10    (A) TO QUALIFY FOR A MASTER ELECTRICIAN-LIMITED LICENSE, AN  
11    APPLICANT SHALL BE AN INDIVIDUAL WHO MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS  
12    OF THIS SECTION.  
13    (B) THE APPLICANT SHALL PAY THE APPLICABLE FEES.  
14    (C) THE APPLICANT SHALL CERTIFY THAT WORK WILL BE PERFORMED  
15    ONLY ON THE PREMISES OF AN EMPLOYER THAT IS NOT ENGAGED IN THE  
16    BUSINESS OF ELECTRICAL WORK.  
17    (D) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION, THE  
18    APPLICANT SHALL HOLD AN ACTIVE MASTER ELECTRICIAN'S LICENSE  
19    ISSUED BY THE STATE OF MARYLAND.  
20    (E) UNLESS THE APPLICANT HOLDS AN ACTIVE MASTER ELECTRICIAN'S  
21    LICENSE ISSUED BY THE STATE OF MARYLAND, THE APPLICANT SHALL:  
22        (1)     CERTIFY UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY TO HAVING  
23                INSURANCE AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 3.213 OF THIS  
24                SUBTITLE;  
25        (2)     BE AT LEAST 21 YEARS OF AGE; AND  
26        (3)     (I)     A.     HOLD A CURRENT ACTIVE MASTER  
27                               ELECTRICIAN-LIMITED LICENSE FROM A  
28                               MARYLAND JURISDICTION THAT:  
29                               1.     HAS EQUIVALENT EXAMINATION AND  
30                               QUALIFYING PROCEDURES TO THOSE  
31                               REQUIRED IN HOWARD COUNTY; AND

2. GRANTS RECIPROCITY TO HOWARD  
COUNTY LICENSEES;

B. HAVE NO LICENSE-RELATED VIOLATIONS  
OUTSTANDING FOR MORE THAN 30 DAYS IN THAT  
JURISDICTION; AND

C. 1. IF THE APPLICANT OBTAINED THE LICENSE  
BY EXAMINATION, HAS HELD IT FOR AT  
LEAST 1 YEAR; OR

2. IF THE APPLICANT OBTAINED THE LICENSE  
WITHOUT EXAMINATION, HAS HELD IT FOR  
AT LEAST 2 YEARS; OR

(II) A. HAVE BEEN REGULARLY AND PRINCIPALLY  
ENGAGED IN ELECTRICAL WORK FOR AT LEAST 2  
YEARS UNDER THE DIRECTION AND SUPERVISION  
OF A MASTER ELECTRICIAN-GENERAL, MASTER  
ELECTRICIAN-LIMITED, OR SIMILARLY  
QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL AND A MONTH OF FULL-  
TIME STUDY OR TRAINING SHALL EQUAL ONE  
MONTH OF PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE IF THE  
APPLICANT RECEIVED UP TO 6 MONTHS:

1. FULL-TIME STUDY IN ELECTRICAL  
ENGINEERING AT AN ACCREDITED  
COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY; OR

2. UP TO 6 MONTHS OF FULL-TIME TRAINING  
IN ELECTRICAL WORK AT A TRADE  
SCHOOL RECOGNIZED BY THE STATE  
BOARD OF ELECTRICAL EXAMINERS;

B. HAVE CORRECTLY ANSWERED AT LEAST 75% OF  
THE QUESTIONS ON THE EXAMINATION GIVEN BY  
THE BOARD TO DETERMINE THE INDIVIDUAL'S

1 KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL IN ELECTRICAL WORK;  
2 AND

3 C. SATISFY THE BOARD AS TO CHARACTER,  
4 EXPERIENCE, AND TRAINING.  
5

6 *Section 6. Be It Enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that*  
7 *Section 3.213 “Indemnity and insurance” of Subtitle 2 “Electrical Regulations” of Title*  
8 *3 “Buildings” of the Howard County Code is amended to read as follows:*  
9

10 **Title 3. Buildings.**

11 **Subtitle 2. Electrical Regulations.**  
12

13 **Section 3.213. Indemnity and insurance.**

14 (a) *Indemnity*: EXCEPT A HOLDER OF AN ACTIVE MASTER ELECTRICIAN'S  
15 LICENSE ISSUED BY THE STATE OF MARYLAND, [[The] THE holder of an  
16 electrical license shall indemnify and hold Howard County harmless from and against all  
17 liability and expenses, including attorney fees, howsoever arising or incurred, for damage  
18 to property or injury to or death of any person arising out of or attributable to the  
19 performance of the licensee in Howard County.

20 (b) *Requirement for Insurance*: [[Except for individuals holding current Howard County  
21 master electrician-limited licenses, no]] EXCEPT A HOLDER OF AN ACTIVE  
22 MASTER ELECTRICIAN'S LICENSE ISSUED BY THE STATE OF MARYLAND,  
23 AN individual may NOT [[do]] PERFORM electrical work unless the individual  
24 maintains insurance of the type and in the amount required under section 6-604 of the  
25 business occupations and professions article, Annotated Code of Maryland. This  
26 insurance provision does not relieve the individual doing electrical work of any of the  
27 responsibilities assumed by an individual doing such work or for which an individual  
28 doing electrical work may be liable by law or otherwise.

29 (c) *Insurance Required To Obtain License*: The board shall not issue, renew, restore, or  
30 reactivate a license unless the individual to be licensed certifies under penalties of perjury  
31 to having the insurance required pursuant to this section.

(d) *Notification:* EXCEPT A HOLDER OF AN ACTIVE MASTER ELECTRICIAN'S LICENSE ISSUED BY THE STATE OF MARYLAND, [[The]] THE certificate of insurance shall provide that Howard County be given (with no qualification) at least 10 days' written notice prior to cancellation, intention not to renew, or material change in provisions.

**Section 7. *Be It Enacted*** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that Section 3.214 "Adoption of National Electrical Code", Section 3.215 "Duties and powers of building official; Interference prohibited", Section 3.216 "Waiver of specific requirements and alternative methods", Section 3.217 "Permit required", Section 3.218 "Permit application", Section 3.219 "Granting, denying, revoking, or suspending a permit", Section 3.220 "Appeal of decision to revoke, deny or suspend a permit", Section 3.221 "Inspections", Section 3.222 "Permit and inspection fees", Section 3.223 "Right of entry", Section 3.224 "Stop work order", Section 3.225 "Hazardous conditions and authority to disconnect", Section 3.226 "Notice of violation", Section 3.227 "Remedies", Section 3.228 "Liability" and Section 3.229 "Severability" are added to Subtitle 2 "Electrical Regulations" of Title 3 "Buildings" of the Howard County Code to read as follows:

### **Title 3. Buildings.**

#### **Subtitle 2. Electrical Regulations.**

#### **SECTION 3.214. ADOPTION OF NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE.**

(A) (1) THE 2005 EDITION (NFPA NUMBER 70) OF THE NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE, WITH AMENDMENTS AS LISTED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, IS HEREBY ADOPTED AS THE ELECTRICAL CODE FOR HOWARD COUNTY, AS IF THE NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE WERE SET OUT IN FULL IN THIS SECTION.

(2) A PERSON PERFORMING OR CAUSING THE PERFORMANCE OF ELECTRICAL WORK SHALL CONFORM TO THE HOWARD

1 COUNTY ELECTRICAL CODE AND TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE  
2 HOWARD COUNTY BUILDING CODE ADOPTED IN TITLE 3,  
3 SUBTITLE 1 OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE.

4 (3) IF A CONFLICT EXISTS BETWEEN THE HOWARD COUNTY  
5 BUILDING CODE AND THE HOWARD COUNTY ELECTRICAL  
6 CODE, THE CODE REQUIRING THE HIGHER STANDARD SHALL  
7 GOVERN.

8 (B) THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS MODIFY CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE  
9 ADOPTED CODE:

10 (1) SECTION 90.4. ENFORCEMENT.  
11 ADD A SENTENCE AT THE END OF THIS SECTION AS FOLLOWS:  
12 “IF THERE IS A CONFLICT BETWEEN THIS SECTION AND ANY  
13 OTHER PROVISION OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE REQUIREMENT OF  
14 THE OTHER PROVISION SHALL GOVERN.”.

15 (2) ARTICLE 100. DEFINITIONS.  
16 DELETE THE DEFINITION FOR “AUTHORITY HAVING  
17 JURISDICTION” AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING  
18 DEFINITION:  
19 “THE BUILDING OFFICIAL. WHEREVER THE TERM  
20 ‘AUTHORITY HAVING JURISDICTION’ IS USED IT SHALL MEAN  
21 THE BUILDING OFFICIAL.”.

22 (3) SECTION 210.8. GROUND-FAULT CIRCUIT-INTERRUPTER  
23 PROTECTION FOR PERSONNEL.  
24 ADD AN EXCEPTION TO SUBSECTION 210.8(A)(7) AS FOLLOWS:  
25 “EXCEPTION: THE REQUIRED LAUNDRY RECEPTACLE THAT  
26 SUPPLIES THE WASHER OR DRYER, OR BOTH, SHALL NOT BE  
27 REQUIRED TO HAVE GROUND-FAULT CIRCUIT PROTECTION.”.

28 (4) SECTION 210.12. ARC-FAULT CIRCUIT-INTERRUPTER  
29 PROTECTION.  
30 IN SUBSECTION (B):  
31 (I) IN THE FOURTH LINE DELETE “COMBINATION TYPE”;

(II) DELETE, IN ITS ENTIRETY, THE SENTENCE THAT BEGINS  
WITH “BRANCH/FEEDER”; AND

(III) ADD AN EXCEPTION TO THE END OF THIS SUBSECTION  
AS FOLLOWS:

“EXCEPTION: A BEDROOM SMOKE DETECTOR IS NOT  
CONSIDERED AN OUTLET WITHIN THE DWELLING UNIT  
BEDROOM AND, IF WIRED ON A CIRCUIT THAT  
OTHERWISE DOES NOT FEED BEDROOM OUTLETS, IS  
NOT REQUIRED TO BE AFCI PROTECTED.”.

(5) SECTION 230.71. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF DISCONNECTS.  
IN SUBSECTION 230.71(A), DELETE “FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS  
SECTION,” THROUGH THE END OF THE SENTENCE.

(6) SECTION 240.21. LOCATION IN CIRCUIT.  
AMEND SUBSECTION 240.21(B) BY ADDING EXCEPTIONS IN  
BOTH SUBSECTIONS (B)(1) AND (B)(2) AS FOLLOWS:  
“EXCEPTION: IN METER ROOMS, THE CONDUCTORS WITHIN  
THE AUXILIARY GUTTER THAT SUPPLIES THE METER SHALL  
NOT COUNT AS A PART OF THE TOTAL LENGTH.”.

(7) SECTION 250.52. GROUNDING ELECTRODES.  
ADD THE FOLLOWING TO THE END OF SUBSECTION  
250.52(A)(3), “CONCRETE-ENCASED ELECTRODES”:  
“EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT,  
THE PRINCIPAL GROUNDING ELECTRODE FOR A NEW  
STRUCTURE IS A CONCRETE ENCASED ELECTRODE  
INSTALLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBSECTION.”.

(8) SECTION 310.5. MINIMUM SIZE OF CONDUCTORS.  
ADD THE FOLLOWING AT THE END OF THIS SECTION:  
“WHETHER SOLID OR STRANDED, A CONDUCTOR SHALL NOT  
BE SMALLER THAN NUMBER 14 COPPER, NUMBER 12 COPPER–  
CLAD ALUMINUM, OR NUMBER 6 ALUMINUM OR ALUMINUM  
ALLOY.”.

- 1           (9)    SECTION 334.10. USES PERMITTED.  
2                    AMEND THIS SECTION BY:  
3            (I)     ADDING A NEW SUBSECTION (4) AS FOLLOWS:  
4                    “(4) IF SUBSECTIONS (1) THROUGH (3) DO NOT APPLY  
5                    AND THE DWELLING OR STRUCTURE IS EQUIPPED WITH  
6                    AN APPROVED FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEM, A  
7                    MULTIFAMILY DWELLING OR OTHER STRUCTURE NOT  
8                    EXCEEDING A TOTAL OF 4 FLOORS, OR AN  
9                    UNSPRINKLERED STRUCTURE NOT EXCEEDING 5,000  
10                  SQUARE FEET TOTAL AREA.”; AND  
11            (II)    RENUMBERING SUBSECTION (4) AS (5).  
12        (10)   SECTION 334.12. USES NOT PERMITTED.  
13            (I)     IN SUBSECTION (A)(1) DELETE “AND (3)” AND  
14                  SUBSTITUTE “(3), AND (4)”;  
15            (II)    DELETE SUBSECTION (A)(2); AND  
16            (III)   RENUMBER THE REMAINING SUBSECTIONS AS (A)(2)  
17                  THROUGH (A)(9), RESPECTIVELY.  
18        (11)   ANNEX G. ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT.  
19            (I)     SPECIFICALLY ADOPT ONLY SUBSECTION 80.9. THE  
20                  REMAINDER OF ANNEX G IS SPECIFICALLY AND  
21                  INTENTIONALLY NOT ADOPTED.

22  
23   **SECTION 3.215. DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE BUILDING OFFICIAL;**  
24   **INTERFERENCE PROHIBITED.**

25   (A) IN ADDITION TO THE AUTHORITY OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS  
26   SUBTITLE, THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY:

- 27       (1)    INTERPRET THIS SUBTITLE IN ORDER TO CLARIFY ITS  
28              REQUIREMENTS;  
29       (2)    DELEGATE THE POWERS NECESSARY FOR THE PROPER  
30              ADMINISTRATION OF THIS SUBTITLE TO ANOTHER QUALIFIED  
31              INDIVIDUAL;

1           (3)     REQUEST OTHER ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES INCLUDING THE  
2                     POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND  
3                     RESCUE SERVICES TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE IN THE  
4                     ENFORCEMENT OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND

5           (4)     OTHERWISE ENFORCE THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE.

6     (B) A PERSON SHALL NOT INTERFERE WITH THE BUILDING OFFICIAL IN  
7     THEIR PERFORMANCE OF A DUTY OR FUNCTION AUTHORIZED BY THIS  
8     SUBTITLE.

9

10   **SECTION 3.216. WAIVER OF SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS AND**  
11   **ALTERNATIVE METHODS.**

12   (A) THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY WAIVE A SPECIFIC REQUIREMENT OF  
13   THIS SUBTITLE OR ALLOW AN ALTERNATIVE METHOD IF:

14           (1)     THE QUALITY, STRENGTH, EFFECTIVENESS, FIRE RESISTANCE,  
15                     DURABILITY, AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBTITLE  
16                     ARE NOT AFFECTED; OR

17           (2)     THE ALTERNATIVE METHOD CAN BE ACHIEVED AT AN  
18                     EQUIVALENT LEVEL OF SAFETY.

19   (B) A REQUEST TO WAIVE A SPECIFIC REQUIREMENT OR ALLOW AN  
20   ALTERNATIVE METHOD SHALL:

21           (1)     BE IN WRITING;

22           (2)     BE ACCOMPANIED BY SUPPORTING INFORMATION THAT  
23                     JUSTIFIES THE REQUEST INCLUDING LETTERS, STATEMENTS,  
24                     OR TEST RESULTS; AND

25           (3)     INCLUDE, WHERE APPLICABLE, TECHNICAL DOCUMENTATION  
26                     TO DEMONSTRATE:

27                     (I)     EQUIVALENCY; AND

28                     (II)    THAT THE SYSTEM, METHOD, OR DEVICE IS APPROVED  
29                     FOR THE INTENDED PURPOSE.

30

31



1   **SECTION 3.217. PERMIT REQUIRED.**

2   (A)   (1)   EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS  
3                   SUBSECTION AND SUBSECTION (C) AND SUBSECTION (D) OF  
4                   THIS SECTION, A PERSON SHALL NOT PERFORM ELECTRICAL  
5                   WORK WITHOUT A PERMIT OBTAINED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

6           (2)   A PERMIT IS NOT REQUIRED FOR A HOMEOWNER TO REPAIR  
7                   OR REPLACE A PORTABLE APPLIANCE, LIGHTING FIXTURE,  
8                   FUSE, LAMP, SOCKET OR TO MAKE OTHER MINOR REPAIRS AT  
9                   AN EXISTING OUTLET IN THE HOMEOWNER'S RESIDENCE.

10   (B) IF AN ELECTRICAL APPLICATION ACCOMPANIES A BUILDING PERMIT  
11   ISSUED WITH A CONTINGENCY CONSTRUCTION START (CCS), THEN  
12   ELECTRICAL WORK, INCLUDING ROUGH-IN WORK:

13           (1)   MAY BEGIN PRIOR TO THE ISSUANCE OF AN ELECTRICAL  
14                   PERMIT:

15           (2)   IS SUBJECT TO INSPECTION AFTER THE ELECTRICAL PERMIT  
16                   IS ISSUED; AND

17           (3)   IS SUBJECT TO ALL RULES AND LIMITATIONS OF THE CCS.

18   (C) INSTEAD OF OBTAINING AN INDIVIDUAL ELECTRICAL PERMIT, THE  
19   HOLDER OF A MASTER ELECTRICIAN-LIMITED LICENSE MAY OBTAIN AN  
20   ANNUAL ELECTRICAL PERMIT.

21   (D)   (1)   INSTEAD OF OBTAINING AN ELECTRICAL PERMIT FOR EACH  
22                   TELEPHONE COMMUNICATION WIRING JOB, A LICENSEE MAY  
23                   OBTAIN A BLANKET ELECTRICAL PERMIT TO COVER ALL  
24                   TELEPHONE COMMUNICATION WIRING.

25           (2)   A HOLDER OF A BLANKET ELECTRICAL PERMIT FOR  
26                   TELEPHONE COMMUNICATION WIRING SHALL FILE A  
27                   MONTHLY LIST WITH THE BUILDING OFFICIAL THAT  
28                   INCLUDES:

29                   (I)   THE ADDRESS OF EACH TELEPHONE WIRING JOB  
30                           PERFORMED DURING THE PRIOR MONTH; AND

- 1 (II) THE NAME OF THE OWNER AND OCCUPANT OF THE  
2 PREMISES.
- 3 (E) (1) UNLESS A PERMIT IS ISSUED TO A MASTER ELECTRICIAN-  
4 GENERAL OR MASTER ELECTRICIAN-LIMITED, A SERVICE  
5 RELEASE SHALL NOT BE ISSUED TO A PUBLIC UTILITY  
6 COMPANY.
- 7 (2) A SERVICE RELEASE WILL BE ISSUED ONLY IF THERE HAS  
8 BEEN COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS  
9 SUBTITLE.
- 10 (F) THE APPLICANT SHALL KEEP A COPY OF THE ELECTRICAL PERMIT AT  
11 THE SITE OF THE WORK UNTIL COMPLETION.
- 12

13 **SECTION 3.218. PERMIT APPLICATION.**

14 (A) AN APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT SHALL:

- 15 (1) IDENTIFY AND DESCRIBE THE WORK TO BE COVERED BY THE  
16 PERMIT;
- 17 (2) DESCRIBE THE PROPERTY WHERE THE PROPOSED WORK IS TO  
18 BE DONE BY LEGAL DESCRIPTION, STREET ADDRESS, OR  
19 OTHER ADDRESS THAT WILL IDENTIFY THE LOCATION OF THE  
20 PROPOSED ELECTRICAL WORK;
- 21 (3) INDICATE THE USE AND OCCUPANCY FOR THE LOCATION OF  
22 THE PROPOSED WORK;
- 23 (4) BE ACCOMPANIED BY CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS THAT  
24 SHALL:
- 25 (I) BE DRAWN TO SCALE WITH SUFFICIENT CLARITY AND  
26 DETAIL TO SHOW THE NATURE AND CHARACTER OF  
27 THE WORK TO BE PERFORMED;
- 28 (II) BEAR THE SEAL, SIGNATURE, AND DATE OF THE  
29 APPROPRIATE MARYLAND STATE PROFESSIONAL  
30 ENGINEER OR ARCHITECT THAT SHALL BE AFFIXED TO  
31 ALL SHEETS OF ALL SETS;

- 1 (III) BE SIGNED BY THE LICENSED CONTRACTOR DOING THE  
2 PROPOSED WORK AND SHALL INCLUDE THAT  
3 CONTRACTORS NAME, LICENSE NUMBER, DAYTIME  
4 PHONE NUMBER, AND DATE OF SIGNATURE; AND  
5 (IV) HAVE AT LEAST ONE SET THAT SHALL BEAR THE  
6 ORIGINAL SEAL, SIGNATURE, AND DATE;  
7 (5) STATE THE VALUATION OF THE PROPOSED WORK;  
8 (6) BE SIGNED BY THE APPLICANT OR THE APPLICANT'S  
9 AUTHORIZED AGENT; AND  
10 (7) GIVE OTHER INFORMATION AS MAY BE REQUIRED BY THE  
11 BUILDING OFFICIAL.  
12 (B) (1) AN APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT IS VALID FOR 6 MONTHS  
13 AFTER FILING AND, AT THE END OF THE 6 MONTH TERM, IS  
14 CONSIDERED TO HAVE BEEN ABANDONED UNLESS:  
15 (I) THE APPLICATION HAS BEEN DILIGENTLY PURSUED; OR  
16 (II) A PERMIT HAS BEEN ISSUED.  
17 (2) (I) AN APPLICANT MAY REQUEST, IN WRITING, ONE OR  
18 MORE EXTENSIONS OF A PERMIT APPLICATION UPON A  
19 SHOWING THAT THE ELECTRICAL WORK HAS BEEN  
20 DILIGENTLY PURSUED.  
21 (II) THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY GRANT, IN WRITING, ONE  
22 OR MORE EXTENSIONS OF TIME.  
23 (III) EACH EXTENSION SHALL BE FOR A PERIOD OF TIME  
24 NOT TO EXCEED 180 DAYS.  
25

26 **SECTION 3.219. GRANTING, DENYING, REVOKING, OR SUSPENDING A**  
27 **PERMIT.**

- 28 (A) (1) THE BUILDING OFFICIAL SHALL EXAMINE OR CAUSE TO BE  
29 EXAMINED AN APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT WITHIN A  
30 REASONABLE TIME AFTER FILING.

- 1           (2)    IF THE APPLICATION DOES NOT CONTAIN THE REQUIRED  
2                    INFORMATION OR IF THE CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS DO  
3                    NOT COMPLY WITH THE APPLICABLE LAW, THE BUILDING  
4                    OFFICIAL SHALL REJECT THE APPLICATION IN WRITING,  
5                    SETTING FORTH THE REASONS FOR REJECTION.
- 6           (3)    IF THE APPLICATION MEETS ALL THE REQUIREMENTS SET  
7                    FORTH IN THIS SUBTITLE, THE BUILDING OFFICIAL SHALL  
8                    GRANT THE PERMIT.
- 9   (B)   (1)    A PERMIT GRANTED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE IS VALID FOR 6  
10                   MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF APPROVAL AND WILL BECOME  
11                   INVALID IF THE WORK AUTHORIZED BY THE PERMIT:  
12                    (I)     DOES NOT BEGIN WITHIN 180 DAYS AFTER THE PERMIT  
13                            IS GRANTED; OR  
14                    (II)    IS SUSPENDED OR ABANDONED FOR A PERIOD OF 180  
15                            DAYS AFTER THE WORK BEGINS.
- 16           (2)    (I)     AN APPLICANT MAY REQUEST, IN WRITING, ONE OR  
17                            MORE EXTENSIONS OF A PERMIT UPON A SHOWING  
18                            THAT THE ELECTRICAL WORK HAS BEEN DILIGENTLY  
19                            PURSUED.  
20                    (II)    THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY GRANT, IN WRITING, ONE  
21                            OR MORE EXTENSIONS OF TIME.  
22                    (III)   EACH EXTENSION SHALL BE FOR A PERIOD OF TIME  
23                            NOT TO EXCEED 180 DAYS.
- 24   (C)   THE GRANT OF A PERMIT IS NOT CONSTRUED TO BE A PERMIT FOR, OR  
25           AN APPROVAL OF, A VIOLATION OF ANY PROVISION OF THIS SUBTITLE OR  
26           ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE.
- 27   (D)   THE GRANT OF A PERMIT BASED ON PLANS SHALL NOT PREVENT THE  
28           BUILDING OFFICIAL FROM REQUIRING THE CORRECTION OF AN ERROR  
29           THE PLANS.
- 30   (E)   THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY SUSPEND OR REVOKE A PERMIT IF THE  
31           PERMIT WAS GRANTED:

- 1           (1)     IN ERROR;  
2           (2)     ON THE BASIS OF INCORRECT INFORMATION; OR  
3           (3)     IN VIOLATION OF THIS SUBTITLE OR ANY OTHER PROVISION  
4                   OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE.

5  
6     **SECTION 3.220. APPEAL OF DECISION TO REVOKE, DENY, OR SUSPEND A**  
7     **PERMIT.**

8     (A) AN ORDER DENYING, REVOKING, OR SUSPENDING A PERMIT SHALL:

- 9           (1)     CONTAIN THE REASON FOR THE DENIAL, REVOCATION, OR  
10                   SUSPENSION; AND  
11           (2)     (I)     BE SERVED UPON THE APPLICANT BY:  
12                           A.     CERTIFIED MAIL, RESTRICTED DELIVERY; OR  
13                           B.     PERSONAL SERVICE; OR  
14                   (II)    IF SERVICE CANNOT BE OBTAINED BY CERTIFIED MAIL,  
15                           RESTRICED DELIVERY, OR PERSONAL SERVICE, THE  
16                           NOTICE MAY BE POSTED IN A CONSPICUOUS LOCATION  
17                           ON THE WORK SITE LISTED IN THE APPLICATION.

18     (B) WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE DATE OF AN ORDER, A PERSON AGGRIEVED  
19     MAY APPEAL THE ORDER TO SUSPEND, REVOKE, OR DENY A PERMIT TO  
20     THE HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS HEARING EXAMINER IN  
21     ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROCEDURES SET FORTH IN TITLE 16, SUBTITLE 3  
22     OF THIS CODE.

23     (C) THE FILING OF AN APPEAL SHALL NOT STAY THE ORDER OF THE  
24     BUILDING OFFICIAL.

25  
26     **SECTION 3.221. INSPECTIONS.**

27     (A) AN INSPECTION IS PERFORMED FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE PUBLIC  
28     SAFETY, HEALTH, AND WELFARE; IS PURELY GOVERNMENTAL IN NATURE;  
29     AND IS SHALL NOT BE CONSTRUED AS PROVIDING A WARRANTY OF  
30     CONSTRUCTION TO INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

31     (B) ELECTRICAL WORK THAT REQUIRES A PERMIT SHALL:

- 1 (1) BE SUBJECT TO INSPECTION BY THE BUILDING OFFICIAL;
- 2 (2) REMAIN ACCESSIBLE AND EXPOSED FOR THE PURPOSE OF
- 3 INSPECTION; AND
- 4 (3) NOT BE COMPLETED BEYOND THE POINT INDICATED IN EACH
- 5 SUCCESSIVE INSPECTION WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE
- 6 BUILDING OFFICIAL.

7 (C) THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY EXAMINE A BUILDING, STRUCTURE, OR  
8 SITE LISTED IN THE APPLICATION IN ORDER TO INSPECT THE ELECTRICAL  
9 WORK:

- 10 (1) PRIOR TO ISSUING A PERMIT;
- 11 (2) DURING THE PERFORMANCE OF WORK TO ENSURE
- 12 COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND
- 13 (3) AFTER ALL WORK REQUIRED BY THE PERMIT IS COMPLETED.

14 (D) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTIONS (D) AND (E) OF THIS SECTION,  
15 THE HOLDER OF A BUILDING PERMIT SHALL:

- 16 (1) NOTIFY THE BUILDING OFFICIAL WHEN WORK IS READY FOR
- 17 INSPECTION; AND
- 18 (2) CAUSE THE WORK TO REMAIN ACCESSIBLE AND EXPOSED
- 19 FOR THE PURPOSE OF INSPECTION.

20 (E) IF ELECTRICAL WORK IS PERFORMED UNDER AN ANNUAL ELECTRICAL  
21 PERMIT, THE HOLDER OF A MASTER ELECTRICIAN-LIMITED LICENSE  
22 SHALL:

- 23 (1) NOTIFY THE BUILDING OFFICIAL WHEN CONCEALED WORK IS
- 24 COMPLETE AND READY FOR INSPECTION; AND
- 25 (2) MAINTAIN A LOG OF WORK FOR AN ANNUAL PERMIT.

26 (F) IF ELECTRICAL WORK IS PERFORMED UNDER A BLANKET ELECTRICAL  
27 PERMIT FOR TELEPHONE WIRING, THE LICENSEE SHALL NOTIFY THE  
28 BUILDING OFFICIAL WHEN WORK IS COMPLETE AND READY FOR  
29 INSPECTION UNLESS:

- 30 (1) THE ROUGH WIRING PORTION OF THE TELEPHONE
- 31 COMMUNICATION WIRING IS COMPLETE AND READY FOR

1 INSPECTION AT THE SAME TIME THE ELECTRICAL  
2 CONTRACTOR'S ROUGH WIRING IS INSPECTED;  
3 (2) THE ELECTRICAL WORK MEETS ALL REQUIREMENTS OF THIS  
4 SUBTITLE; AND  
5 (3) THE TELEPHONE COMMUNICATION WIRING IS TAGGED TO  
6 IDENTIFY THE LICENSEE WHO DID THE ELECTRICAL WORK.  
7 (G) THE BUILDING OFFICIAL SHALL:  
8 (1) UPON NOTIFICATION, MAKE THE REQUESTED INSPECTION;  
9 (2) NOTIFY THE PERMIT HOLDER THAT THE ELECTRICAL WORK:  
10 (I) IS SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED; OR  
11 (II) FAILS TO COMPLY WITH THIS SUBTITLE; AND  
12 (3) BE IDENTIFIED BY PROPER CREDENTIALS.  
13 (H) THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY ACCEPT REPORTS OF APPROVED  
14 INSPECTION AGENCIES IF THE AGENCY SATISFIES REQUIREMENTS AS TO  
15 QUALIFICATIONS AND RELIABILITY.  
16 (I) ELECTRICAL WORK THAT DOES NOT COMPLY WITH THIS SUBTITLE AS  
17 DETERMINED UPON INSPECTION SHALL BE CORRECTED AND SHALL NOT  
18 BE COVERED OR CONCEALED UNTIL AUTHORIZED BY THE BUILDING  
19 OFFICIAL.  
20 (J) APPROVAL OF ELECTRICAL WORK AS A RESULT OF AN INSPECTION IS  
21 NOT CONSIDERED APPROVAL OF A VIOLATION OF THIS SUBTITLE OR ANY  
22 OTHER PROVISION OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE.  
23 (K) THE BUILDING OFFICIAL OR THE COUNTY IS NOT LIABLE FOR ANY  
24 EXPENSES INCURRED IN THE REMOVAL OR REPLACEMENT OF ANY  
25 MATERIAL REQUIRED TO BE MOVED TO ALLOW INSPECTION.

26  
27 **SECTION 3.222. PERMIT AND INSPECTION FEES.**

28 (A) THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE SHALL RECOMMEND TO THE COUNTY  
29 COUNCIL A SCHEDULE OF FEES FOR ELECTRICAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS,  
30 ELECTRICAL PERMITS, AND FOR INSPECTIONS REQUIRED BY THIS  
31 SUBTITLE.

1 (B) THE COUNTY COUNCIL SHALL ANNUALLY ADOPT BY RESOLUTION A  
2 SCHEDULE OF FEES FOR ELECTRICAL PERMITS, PERMIT APPLICATIONS,  
3 AND INSPECTIONS.

4 (C) A REINSPECTION FEE SHALL BE CHARGED FOR EACH REINSPECTION IF  
5 THE ELECTRICAL WORK HAS TO BE REINSPECTED BECAUSE:

6 (1) AT THE PREARRANGED TIME FOR INSPECTION:

7 (I) THE WORK WAS NOT READY FOR INSPECTION; OR

8 (II) THE BUILDING OFFICIAL DID NOT HAVE ACCESS TO THE  
9 WORK;

10 (2) THE BUILDING OFFICIAL HAD TO RETURN MORE THAN ONCE  
11 TO INSPECT A CORRECTION OF THE SAME VIOLATION OF THIS  
12 CODE; OR

13 (3) THE BUILDING OFFICIAL DISCOVERS AN OBVIOUS VIOLATION  
14 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

15 (C) (1) THERE SHALL NOT BE A REFUND OF AN APPLICATION FEE  
16 FOR AN ELECTRICAL PERMIT.

17 (2) (I) AN ELECTRICAL PERMIT FEE MAY BE REFUNDED IF THE  
18 PERMIT IS REVOKED, THE PROJECT IS ABANDONED OR  
19 DISCONTINUED, OR IF THE ELECTRICAL WORK IS NOT  
20 PERFORMED.

21 (II) A REQUEST UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH SHALL BE IN  
22 WRITING.

23 (III) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEDUCT THE APPLICATION  
24 FEE FROM THE AMOUNT PAID FOR THE ELECTRICAL  
25 PERMIT AND SHALL REFUND THE REMAINDER.

26 (D) UPON APPROVAL OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
27 FINANCE, THE HOLDER OF A BLANKET ELECTRICAL PERMIT FOR  
28 TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS MAY PAY ON A MONTHLY BASIS FOR  
29 INSPECTIONS PERFORMED DURING THE PRIOR MONTH.



1   **SECTION 3.223. RIGHT OF ENTRY.**

2   (A) THE BUILDING OFFICIAL SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO ENTER A  
3   BUILDING, STRUCTURE, OR PREMISES WITHOUT THE PRIOR CONSENT OF  
4   THE OWNER OR OCCUPANT FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENFORCING THE  
5   PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE WHERE A HAZARDOUS CONDITION EXISTS  
6   THAT THREATENS OR MAY THREATEN THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY.

7   (B) THE BUILDING OFFICIAL SHALL PRODUCE PROOF OF IDENTITY PRIOR  
8   TO ENTRY.

9   (C) IF THE BUILDING OFFICIAL DETERMINES THAT A HAZARDOUS  
10   CONDITION EXISTS, THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY ORDER THAT THE  
11   HAZARDOUS CONDITION BE CORRECTED.

12  
13   **SECTION 3.224. STOP WORK ORDER.**

14   (A) THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY ISSUE A STOP WORK ORDER IF THE  
15   BUILDING OFFICIAL FINDS THAT ELECTRICAL WORK:

16       (1)    IS BEING PERFORMED IN A MANNER THAT IS IN CONFLICT  
17               WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE; OR

18       (2)    IS DANGEROUS OR UNSAFE.

19   (B) A STOP WORK ORDER SHALL:

20       (1)    BE IN WRITING;

21       (2)    STATE THE REASON FOR THE ORDER AND THE ACTIONS  
22               NECESSARY TO ALLOW THE WORK TO RESUME;

23       (3)    BE GIVEN TO THE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY, THE OWNER'S  
24               AGENT, OR THE PERSON PERFORMING THE ELECTRICAL  
25               WORK.

26   (C) UNLESS THE WORK IS TO REMOVE A VIOLATION OR TO CORRECT AN  
27   UNSAFE CONDITION, A PERSON SHALL NOT CONTINUE TO WORK AFTER  
28   HAVING BEEN SERVED WITH A STOP WORK ORDER.

1 **SECTION 3.225. HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS AND AUTHORITY TO**  
2 **DISCONNECT.**

3 (A) IF THE BUILDING OFFICIAL FINDS A DANGEROUS INSTALLATION,  
4 ALTERATION, OR REPAIR OF ELECTRICAL WORK, THE BUILDING OFFICIAL  
5 SHALL PROVIDE NOTICE THAT SHALL:

6 (1) BE SERVED ON THE OWNER OR OCCUPANT OF THE PREMISES  
7 AND THE LICENSEE BY:

8 (I) TELEPHONE;

9 (II) PERSONAL SERVICE;

10 (III) FIRST CLASS MAIL; OR

11 (IV) BY POSTING THE PROPERTY AS “UNSAFE”; AND

12 (2) STATE THAT NECESSARY REPAIRS SHALL BE MADE WITHIN 5  
13 DAYS OF RECEIPT OF THE NOTIFICATION.

14 (B) (1) THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY DISCONNECT PUBLIC UTILITIES,  
15 INCLUDING ELECTRICAL SUPPLY, TO A BUILDING,  
16 STRUCTURE, OR SYSTEM REGULATED BY THIS SUBTITLE IF:

17 (I) REPAIRS ARE NOT MADE UNDER THIS SECTION; OR

18 (II) A HAZARDOUS CONDITION EXISTS THAT THREATENS  
19 OR MAY THREATEN THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

20 (2) THE BUILDING OFFICIAL SHALL NOTIFY:

21 (I) THE SERVING UTILITY; AND

22 (II) THE OWNER AND OCCUPANT OF THE BUILDING,  
23 STRUCTURE, OR SERVICE SYSTEM OF THE DECISION TO  
24 DISCONNECT:

25 A. WHERE POSSIBLE, PRIOR TO DISCONNECTING; OR

26 B. AS SOON AS PRACTICAL, AFTER DISCONNECTING.

27  
28 **SECTION. 3.226. NOTICE OF VIOLATION.**

29 (A) A PERSON SHALL NOT PERFORM OR CAUSE TO BE PERFORMED  
30 ELECTRICAL WORK IN VIOLATION OF THIS SUBTITLE.

1 (B) THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY SERVE A NOTICE OF VIOLATION ON THE  
2 OWNER OR LICENSEE FOR THE ERECTION, CONSTRUCTION, ALTERATION,  
3 EXTENSION, REPAIR, MOVING, REMOVING, DEMOLITION, OCCUPANCY, OR  
4 INSTALLATION OF ELECTRICAL WORK THAT IS IN VIOLATION OF A  
5 PROVISION OF THIS SUBTITLE OR IN VIOLATION OF A PERMIT OR LICENSE  
6 GRANTED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

7 (C) A NOTICE OF VIOLATION SHALL ORDER THAT:

- 8 (1) THE ILLEGAL ACTION BE TERMINATED;
- 9 (2) THE ILLEGAL CONDITION BE FIXED; AND
- 10 (3) THE VIOLATION BE ABATED.

11 (D) A NOTICE OF VIOLATION SHALL BE SERVED BY:

- 12 (1) PERSONAL SERVICE;
- 13 (2) CERTIFIED MAIL, RESTRICTED DELIVERY, RETURN RECEIPT  
14 REQUESTED TO THE PROPERTY OWNER AND TO THE  
15 LICENSEE;
- 16 (3) FIRST CLASS TO THE PROPERTY OWNER'S ADDRESS AS  
17 LISTED ON THE PERMIT APPLICATION;
- 18 (4) FIRST CLASS TO THE LICENSEE'S ADDRESS AS LISTED ON THE  
19 LICENSE APPLICATION; OR
- 20 (5) IF SERVICE IS NOT OBTAINED IN ONE OF THESE METHODS, BY  
21 POSTING IN A CONSPICUOUS PLACE ON THE PROPERTY.

22  
23 **SECTION 3.227. REMEDIES.**

24 (A) THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY INSTITUTE ANY ACTION AT LAW OR  
25 EQUITY, INCLUDING INJUNCTION OR MANDAMUS, TO ENFORCE THE  
26 PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE.

27 (B) THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY PREVENT USE OR OCCUPANCY OF A  
28 STRUCTURE WHERE THERE IS A VIOLATION OF THIS SUBTITLE.

29 (C) ALTERNATIVELY, AND IN ADDITION TO AND CONCURRENT WITH ALL  
30 OTHER REMEDIES, THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY ENFORCE THE

1 PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE WITH CIVIL PENALTIES IN ACCORDANCE  
2 WITH TITLE 24 OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE AS FOLLOWS:

- 3 (I) A VIOLATION OF THIS SUBTITLE IS A CLASS C OFFENSE; AND  
4 (II) A SUBSEQUENT VIOLATION OF THIS SUBTITLE IS A CLASS B  
5 OFFENSE.  
6 (D) EACH DAY THAT A VIOLATION CONTINUES IS A SEPARATE OFFENSE.

7  
8 **SECTION 3.228. LIABILITY.**

9 (A) THE BUILDING OFFICIAL OR OTHER PERSON DESIGNATED TO ENFORCE  
10 THIS SUBTITLE WHILE ACTING IN GOOD FAITH AND WITHOUT MALICE IN  
11 THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES REQUIRED BY THIS CODE SHALL  
12 NOT BE PERSONALLY LIABLE FOR ANY DAMAGE OCCURRING TO PERSONS  
13 OR PROPERTY AS A RESULT OF ANY ACT OR BY REASON OF AN ACT OR  
14 OMISSION IN THE DISCHARGE OF THEIR OFFICIAL DUTIES.

15 (B) A SUIT INSTITUTED AGAINST AN OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE IN THE  
16 LAWFUL DISCHARGE OF DUTIES AND UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THIS  
17 SUBTITLE SHALL BE DEFENDED BY THE COUNTY.

18 (C) THE BUILDING OFFICIAL IS NOT LIABLE FOR THE COST OF ANY  
19 ACTION, SUIT, OR PROCEEDING THAT IS INSTITUTED PURSUANT TO THIS  
20 SUBTITLE.

21  
22 **SECTION 3.229 SEVERABILITY.**

23 IF ANY PART OF THIS SUBTITLE IS HELD INVALID, THE INVALIDITY SHALL  
24 NOT AFFECT THE OTHER PARTS.

25  
26 *Section 8. And Be It Further Enacted by the County Council of Howard County,*  
27 *Maryland, that this Act shall become effective 61 days after its enactment.*